

CHATTERBEE

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Getting started

(Requires BASIC cartridge)

1. Turn on POWER.
2. Insert diskette. (Title screen will come up automatically.)
3. Follow prompts on screen for selecting level and number of words per round.

Using the keyboard

1. To enter words into the computer, use the keyboard as you would a typewriter. Chatterbee will repeat each letter aloud as you type.
2. If you'd like to hear the word and its context again, use the OPTION key. (This will not affect your score.)
3. To erase a letter, use the DELETE key.
4. To erase a whole word, use the CLEAR key. You can then start over, without losing points.
5. If a word is too difficult, you can give up by pressing the ESC key. Chatterbee will then spell the word for you and move on to the next word. You will receive no points for that word.
6. If you'd rather not attempt a particular word, or you don't understand it, press the SELECT key. Chatterbee will then substitute a new word for the passed word (without giving the correct spelling of the passed word). While this move will not cost you any game points, it will hinder your advancement to higher levels.
7. To start the entire game over again, press RESET.

Scoring

Chatterbee gives you three chances to spell each word. If you are correct on your first try, you'll be awarded the full number of points allowed. If you spell the word correctly on your second attempt, you'll get half the possible points and, on the third, a quarter. After three tries, Chatterbee will spell it for you, and you will not earn any points for that particular word.

Things to know

- 1.** Chatterbee features a list of 2500 words organized into 25 levels of 100 words each. The words have been selected in accordance with current educational standards from lists published in the education literature.
- 2.** Grades one through six in school are each represented by three levels in Chatterbee. (i.e. levels 1,2, and 3 consist of easy, medium and difficult words for the first grade.) After level 18, each grade level is represented by one Chatterbee level.
- 3.** The game consists of 10 rounds, with an optional five or 10 words per round.
- 4.** Although more points are awarded at higher levels and at later rounds, the optimal score will always be achieved by starting at the level at which you are most comfortable.

Playing the game

Chatterbee teaches spelling the old-fashioned way – something you wouldn't normally expect of a piece of computer software.

But as it happens, the old-fashioned way is also the most sensible way to learn to spell. Chatterbee just makes it fun.

To start off, simply choose one of Chatterbee's 25 levels of difficulty. Level one is for first graders. Level 25 could stump Webster.

Most of us, of course, are somewhere in between. So just pick any level you feel comfortable with. Chatterbee's internal scoring system will then ease you automatically into the level of challenge that's just right for you.

Once you've selected your level, Chatterbee will give you a word, then define it in a sentence, then repeat the word once again. As you spell out the word on the keyboard, the letters will appear on the screen and Chatterbee will repeat them aloud.

Spell a word correctly and you'll know it right away. Because Chatterbee will give you a hearty congratulations and lots of points. Spell it incorrectly and you'll get two more chances – which is a whole lot better than a spelling bee.

If you simply can't figure a word out correctly, don't be disappointed. Chatterbee will not only spell it for you, but its automatic retesting feature will sneak the word back into the game later on to make sure you've learned it.

Which, in the end, is really what Chatterbee is all about – learning. And having fun at it.

PROLINE

8295 South La Cienega Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90301 (213) 215-0529

Chatterbee is developed by Don't Ask Computer Products, Inc.

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Atari Computers

Requires 40K

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